

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 R

DRAFTED BY OPIC/F GWILLIAMS

APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ OIA:RJSMITH

EB/IFD/OIA:DHSTEBBING

AF/W:WRAMSAY

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P 141556Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 089863

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL - MFC SERVICES

REFS: (A) STATE 015013, (B) STATE 065762

1. AS REPORTED IN TELCON BETWEEN KENNETH MUELLER, PRESIDENT OF THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, AND AMBASSADOR ROBERT SMITH, ONE OF THE COMPANIES INTERESTED IN PURSUING ONE OF THE COUNCIL'S PROJECTS IN IVORY COAST IS MFC SERVICES, A LARGE AND SUCCESSFUL AGRIBUSINESS COOPERATIVE WITH HEADQUARTERS IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. MFC'S INTEREST IN IVORY COAST HAS EVOLVED OUT OF OPIC'S CONTACT TO ELICIT THEIR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN A PROPOSED SMALL SCALE FERTILIZER PROJECT IN GHANA. THIS COMPANY HOPES TO VISIT GHANA THE WEEK OF APRIL 19, AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO VISIT IVORY COAST THE FOLLOWING WEEK. MORE INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED VISIT TO GHANA IS CONTAINED IN A SIMULTANEOUS TELEGRAM TO ACCRA BEING PASSED TO ABIDJAN.

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2. IN IVORY COAST MFC HAS INITIAL FOCUS ON OPPORTUNITIES

FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS IN THE FEED, POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK SECTORS. THEIR INITIAL ATTENTION IS FOCUSED ON THE FEED AND POULTRY PROJECT SKETCHED BY THE COUNCIL, BUT, BECAUSE IVORIANS HAVE BEEN UNCLEAR IN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE SPECIFIC PROJECT IS AVAILABLE, THEY SEE THE PROJECT MATERIALS WHICH THEY HAVE AS POSSIBLY REPRESENTATIVE OF OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SAME OR RELATED SECTORS.

3. THE COMPANY OFFICERS INTENDING TO VISIT IVORY COAST ARE ROBERT FILGO, VICE PRESIDENT AND TREASURER, AND JOHN BOND, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL. REQUEST EMBASSY MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR TWO SINGLE ROOMS BEGINNING THE NIGHT OF APRIL 24 AND CABLE OPIC, COPY FOR VISITORS THROUGH U.S. EMBASSY ACCRA, WITH SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS. VISITORS HAVE RESERVATIONS ON GH546 FROM ACCRA ON APRIL 24. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TRADE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE089863
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: F GWILLIAMS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760141-0820
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760461/aaaabzxl.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OPIC
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 15013, 76 STATE 65762
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL - MFC SERVICES
TAGS: EFIN, BAGB, IV, US
To: ABIDJAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006